

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A remote control system for controlling multiple home appliances, comprising:

a plurality of home appliances installed at a place remote from a user's life space;

a monitoring device connected to the plurality of home appliances wirelessly or via a cable to ~~transmit/receive~~ transmit and receive data ~~to/from~~ to and from at least one of the plurality of home appliances; and

a remote controller connected to the monitoring device wirelessly to ~~transmit/receive~~ transmit and receive data to control an operation of at least one of the plurality of home appliances,

the monitoring device comprising:

an infrared communication module that transmits and receives data to and from the remote controller;

a microcomputer adapted to process the data received from the remote controller or any of the plurality of home appliances to ensure the data correctly reaches an intended destination, and to control an operation of at least one of the plurality of home appliances according to a command transmitted from the remote controller; and

a data storage unit to store data received from the remote controller or the at least one of the plurality of home appliances, wherein the monitoring device is located together with the remote controller at a place which is separated from where the plurality of home appliances are located.

2. (Previously Presented) The remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of home appliances are a washing machine and/or a drier.

3. (Currently Amended) The remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the monitoring device further comprises:

a display unit for displaying an operation state of at least one of the plurality of home appliances; and

~~an infrared communication module for communicating with the remote controller;~~

4. (Previously Presented) The remote control system according to claim 3, wherein the microcomputer further comprises:

an input/output control unit to allow the operation state of at least one of the plurality of home appliances to be displayed on the display unit; and

a data processing unit for processing the data transmitted from the remote controller or at least one of the plurality of home appliances.

5. (Original) The remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the monitoring device comprises an input unit for enabling a setting of an operation of a main body.

6. (Original) The remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the remote controller comprises:

an input unit having a plurality of buttons for inputting a control command;

an infrared communication module for transmitting/receiving data to/from the monitoring device; and

a control unit for transmitting the control command inputted from the input unit to the monitoring device.

7. (Previously Presented) The remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the remote controller comprises a display unit for displaying information on an operation state of at least one of the plurality of home appliances, which is received from the monitoring device.

8. (Previously Presented) The remote control system according to claim 1, further comprising a power line modem provided at the monitoring device and/or at least one of the plurality of home appliances to enable data transmission/reception.

9. (Previously Presented) The remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the monitoring device and the plurality of home appliances are coupled to a power line network and transmits/receives data therethrough.

10. (Previously Presented) The remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of home appliances comprise:

a first home appliance; and

a second home appliance, the first home appliance being connected to the monitoring device via a power line network, the second home appliance being connected to the ~~second~~first home appliance via a communication cable.

11. (Previously Presented) The remote control system according to claim 1, wherein the monitoring device comprises an infrared communication module, the monitoring device being

wirelessly connected to a communication device which is connected to at least one of the plurality of home appliances via a power line network .

12. (Previously Presented) The remote control system according to claim 11, wherein the communication device comprises:

an infrared communication module for transmitting/receiving data and control command to/from the monitoring device;

a power line communication module for transmitting/receiving data to/from at least one of the plurality of home appliances; and

a data processing unit for processing the data transmitted/received to/from the monitoring device and/or at least one of the plurality of home appliances.

13. (Currently Amended) A remote control system for home appliance, comprising:

a monitoring device for monitoring an operation state of a home appliance, the monitoring device installed remotely from the home appliance, wherein the monitoring device includes an infrared communication module that transmits and receives data;

a remote controller for wirelessly transmitting/receiving transmitting and receiving data to/from to and from the monitoring device; and

a communication device having a signal processing unit for exchanging data between the monitoring device and the home appliance, wherein the communication device exchanges data with the monitoring device through an infrared communication module and exchanges data with the home appliance through a power line network.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The remote control system according to claim 15, wherein at least two home appliances are provided, the at least two home appliances being connected to the power line network and having power line modems for receiving control command from the communication device.

17. (Original) The remote control system according to claim 13, wherein two or more home appliances are provided, only one of the home appliances being connected to the communication device and a power line network, the remaining home appliances being connected together via a communication cable.

18. (Currently Amended) A remote control method for home appliance, comprising:

turning on a monitoring device and displaying a state of the home appliance thereon, the monitoring device located at a place which is separated from where the plurality of home appliances are located;

inputting an operation condition of the home appliance through a remote controller, the remote controller located at the same place as where the monitoring device is located;

transmitting the inputted operation condition to the monitoring device;

transmitting the operation condition received by the monitoring device to a communication device connected to the home appliance via a cable;

transmitting the operation condition received by the communication device to the home appliance so that the home appliance operates in accordance with the operation condition; and

displaying an operation state of the home appliance on the monitoring device and transmitting with an infrared module the operation state of the home appliance to the remote controller.

19. (Original) The remote control method according to claim 18, wherein the operation of transmitting the operation condition to the home appliance comprises:

inputting command data transmitted from the monitoring device to a communication device connected to the home appliance via a cable; and
transmitting the command data received by the communication device to the home appliance.

20. (Original) The remote control method according to claim 19, wherein the command data transmitted from the monitoring device is inputted to the communication device through an infrared module.

21. (Original) The remote control method according to claim 18, wherein the command data is transmitted from the monitoring device to the home appliance via a power line network or an infrared communication.